

For Immediate Release

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*The New Jersey Department of Transportation will invest millions of dollars of transportation stimulus funds in the 13th district.*

Washington, D.C. Representative Albio Sires welcomed more than \$60 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for transportation projects in the 13th District of New Jersey. Congressman Albio Sires voted in favor of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which President Obama signed into law on February 17, 2009.

“We need to get people back to work,” said Sires. “These funds will create or save thousands of jobs in the 13th district, while also making critical, long-term investments in our highways, bridges, and mass transit systems.”

Next week, the Lincoln Highway Bridges on Route 1&9 between Jersey City, Kearny, and Newark will receive \$30 million in federal funding to remove the existing protective coating and begin preventative maintenance that will extend the life of the bridge. Other projects in the area that will receive federal funding include:

Wittpenn Bridge - \$12 million to complete the final design and accelerate the construction of the bridge over the Hackensack River between Jersey City and Kearny

Route 440 Ramp, West Side Avenue, State Street - \$800,000 to design and accelerate construction of the bridge deck replacement in Perth Amboy

Route 440 – \$4 million for resurfacing from JFK Boulevard to 22nd Street in Bayonne

Hudson Bergen Light Rail – \$15 million for the construction of new switches

Other investments in New Jersey include \$2.5 million for bus shelter upgrades throughout the state, \$22 million for the replacement of ties and tracks throughout the commuter rail system, and more than \$35 million for rehabilitating rail cars and locomotives. Federal funding also includes \$130 million for construction of the trans-Hudson ARC mass transit tunnel project.

This funding announced on March 5 does not include an additional \$162 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds for county and local transportation priorities throughout the state, which will be announced in the coming weeks. ###